(c) whether Government have obtained Indian and International patent for the vaccine; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, Scientists from National Chemical Laboratory, Pune have isolated a biologically derived molecule from an alkalothermophilic Bacillus species that inhibits HIV-1 Protease, the enzyme responsible for the multiplication of the AIDS causing virus. It is not a vaccine but it is an inhibitor. This molecule is isolated from a robust microbe that thrives at high temperatures and alkaline conditions.

The inhibitor isolated has an amino acid sequence that shows no similarity to existing peptidic inhibitors and represents an exciting new class of inhibitors. CSIR has filed Indian and Foreign Patent Applications on this invention.

Treatment for poor patients in Indraprastha Apollo Hospital

1944. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor patients are entitled to have treatment in the Indraprastha Apollo Hospital at par with those who pay for their medical expenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering the formation of a Commission to ensure that poor patients are provided medical facilities as per the guidelines of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELrARE (SHRI A. RA JA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.